

Increase Refugee Admissions level to 125,000 per fiscal year.

Provide social, economic, and civic support to refugees and rebuild the capacity and infrastructure of local communities to welcome refugees.

Amend the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) to no longer allow deportation of an individual deemed to have become a public charge.

Madam Speaker, the rich tapestry of our nation that is comprised of diverse cultures, languages, and experiences have always been America's strength—and that is why improving our system to welcome new Americans will ensure our nation continues to thrive. This bicameral legislation is a down payment for future generations to succeed in the United States. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and join me in moving our diverse nation forward by helping new Americans.

IN RECOGNITION OF MIKE
TEDESCO

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mike Tedesco on his new role as President and CEO of Vision Together 2025 in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Vision Together 2025 is a volunteer-based organization that works to improve life in the Greater Johnstown region by laying a groundwork for better educational and economic opportunities. Vision Together 2025 already is making great strides in its mission, and I am confident that Mike will continue this work for the community.

Mike holds a degree from the University of Idaho and a master's degree in Urban & Regional Planning from the University of Kansas. An expert in urban planning, Mike was most recently the Executive Director of the Spokane Tribe of Indians in Spokane, Washington. He also previously served as Executive Director of the Pueblo Urban Renewal Authority.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, it is my privilege to welcome Mike Tedesco to Johnstown and wish him success in his new role.

HONORING THE LIFE OF W.
EUGENE BURRELL

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a community leader and friend, W. Eugene Burrell of Fannett, Texas, who passed away on Wednesday, December 30, 2020, at the age of 86. Eugene was a lifelong cattle rancher, rice farmer, and civic leader in Southeast Texas. He had the respect of all who knew him.

Eugene was born on October 27, 1934, in Beaumont, Texas, to Louise DeVillier Burrell and Walter Jordan Burrell. He began farming rice at the age of 18 and worked in that role until the age of 21, when he decided to serve

his country in the United States Army. After serving in the Army from 1955 to 1957, where he was stationed overseas in Germany, Eugene returned home and continued rice farming—an occupation that would unknowingly last for 52 years. Apart from growing rice, he was also a dedicated cattle rancher for more than 70 years. Eugene served as a board member on numerous industry and community boards, such as: the American Rice Incorporate Board in Houston, the American Rice Growers Board in Cheek, Texas, the Coastal Cattlemen's Association Board, the Equalization Board for the Jefferson County Appraisal District, the West Jefferson Municipal Water District, and the Texas Rice Festival, where he volunteered with his wife, Sandra. In 1999, Eugene was named the Texas Rice Festival Farmer of the Year and subsequently its Pioneer Farmer of the Year in 2017. His steadfast faith was always important to him. In fact, he served as a member of St. Mary's Fannett Knights of Columbus organization.

In addition to "Eugene," his friends and family lovingly referred to him as "Dad," "Pawpaw," "Boogie," and "Fred". Supporting his children, and later his grandchildren, by attending their sporting events and various competitions over the years was always a top priority to him. Eugene is survived by his wife of 63 years, Sandra Ray Burrell; daughters, Karen Burrell Reneau and her husband, Charlie, and Kelly Burrell Alton and her husband, Randy; son, Troy Eugene Burrell and his wife, Shelly; grandchildren, Landon Reneau and his wife, Hillary, William Reneau and his wife, Amanda, Lane Stuart, Reid Alton, Mary Alton, Abby Alton, Cody Burrell, and Cameron Burrell and his wife, Lauren; great-grandchildren, Eli Reneau, Ella Reneau, and Bryar Burrell and numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, Louise and Walter Burrell, and brother, James "Jack" Burrell.

Madam Speaker, I would like to honor my friend W. Eugene Burrell for his many years of faithful service to his community. My thoughts and prayers remain with his family and friends during this difficult time.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
AND SERVICE OF CAPT. (RET)
JAMES MICHAEL KUZMA

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise to pay tribute to a great man and my longtime friend, Capt. (Ret) James Michael Kuzma. Jim passed away unexpectedly on Friday, February 5, 2021, just three days shy of his 60th birthday.

Jim was born February 8, 1961 in Steubenville, Ohio. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy, a Master of Science in Engineering Management from the Catholic University of America, and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF).

Jim served 28 years with the U.S. Navy before "retiring" to Cocoa Beach in 2011. I say

"retiring" in quotations because anyone who knew Jim knew that it was nearly unthinkable for him to rest. He was always thinking of creative ways to solve challenges. For the last decade, Jim served as Space Florida's Senior Vice President and General Manager of the Cape Canaveral Spaceport, working to cement the state's position as a world leader in aerospace.

Recruited to Space Florida to strengthen and grow its operational support for the commercial space industry at Cape Canaveral Spaceport, Jim embraced the mission and excelled at finding ways to respond to industry's needs. He led efforts to secure Federal Aviation Administration spaceport operating licenses for both the former Shuttle Landing Facility (SLF) and other former Government sites on Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Jim spearheaded the transfer of the SLF to Space Florida's management and operation, and he was instrumental in attracting Blue Origin to base its orbital program in Florida. For the past two years, he worked tirelessly to ensure a solution for replacing NASA's 1964 Indian River Bridge that would meet the spaceport's needs far into the future. These were only a few examples Jim's accomplishments to further America's space program in positive ways.

Jim visited my office frequently in Washington, advocating for the commercial space industry, offering creative solutions to problems, and urging needed regulatory reform to ensure America's leadership in space. He served on the Board of the Commercial Spaceflight Federation, and more recently on the CSF Executive Committee.

Jim began his Naval service on the USS *Jacksonville SSN 699*. He went on to Naval Sea Systems Command, serving during 1988 through 90 as a Fleet Liaison and Systems Test Director for various submarine Combat and Weapons System Program Offices. He served as Engineering Officer on the USS *Newport News SSN 750* from 1991 to 1994. In 1994, he was assigned to the Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet (CINCLANTFLT) Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board. He served as the Executive Officer on USS *Atlanta SSN 712* from October 1996 to July 1998 before reporting to Submarine Warfare Division of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) staffer where he served as Submarine Combat Systems Requirements Officer. Following that, he served as the Commanding Officer of the USS *Boise 764* from March 2001 until October 2003. He then became Deputy Director for Operations on the staff of the Commander, Naval Submarine Forces from 2003 to 2005. From October 2005 to August 2007, Captain Kuzma served as Special Activities Division Chief on Strategic Command's Joint Functional Component Command for Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance staff before attending the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) from August 2007 to June 2008. He rounded off his impressive Naval career as the Commanding Officer of the Naval Ordnance Test Unit in Cape Canaveral (2008–2011).

Captain Kuzma's personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, six Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals and four Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals. Yet, he never spoke about them. Jim was indeed